POPULAR SCIENCE. Gleanings from the World of Discovery

-The popular fallacy that housebetter than "pure country air."

obliged to use all sorts of engines for offices. measurement—angles, rules, plumb Hues-to produce his buildings and to guide his hand; the bee executes her work immediately from her mind, without instruments or tools of any kind. "She has successfully solved a problem in higher mathematics, which the discovery of the differential calculus, a century and a half ago, alone enables us of the cells is always just, so that, if the surfaces on which she works are unequal, still the axis running through it is in the true direction, and the junction of the two axes forms the angle of 60 degrees as accurately as if there were none." The manner in which she the moment and the place is marvelous, In order to test their ingenuity, Huber glazed the interior of a hive, with the exception of certain bits of wood fastened on the sides. The bees cannot make their work adhere to glass, and they began to build horizontally from side to side; he interposed other plates of glass in different directions, and they curved their combs in the strangest shapes, in order to make them reach the wooden supports. He says that this proceeding denoted more than an instinct, as glass was not a substance against which bees could be warned by nature, and that they changed the direction of the work before reaching the glass, at the distance precisely suitable for making the necessary turns—enlarging the cells on the outter side greatly and on the inner side diminishing the proportionately. As the different insects were working on the different sides, there must have been some means of communicating the proportion to be observed; while the bottom being common to both sets of cells, the difficulty of thus regularly varying their dimensions must have been great indeed. Scientific American, THE FECUNDATION OF FLOWERS BY

Insecrs, -Among the numerous dismore interesting or more curious than of about 45 cents. the part taken by insects in the developnsect, in spite of himself, with pollen, of the telegraph company. but, at the same time, to separate composition of the various parts of the orchidacem; but there are other flowand, to reach the hidden nectar, tries to enter an older blossom the elongated again this winter, stigma grazes along its back, rubs off flower of another species, the construcas it remains intact until a proper blossom is entered. - Scientific American. | country.

The Horse.

Charles Dicken's opinion of the horse object to the personal appearance of the horse. I protest against the conventional idea of beauty as attached to that animal. I think his nose too long his forehead too low, and his legs (ex cept in the case of the cart horse) ridie: ously thin for his body. Again, considering how big an animal he is, I ob ject to the contemptible delicacy of his constitution. Is he not the sickliest creature in creation? Does a child eatch cold as easy as a horse? Does not a horse, for all his appearance of superior strength, strain his fetlock as easily as I sprain my ankle? Furthermore, to take him from another point of view, what a helpless wretch he is! No fine lady requires more constant waiting on than a horse. Other animals can make their own toilet; he must have a groom. You will tell that this is because we want to make his coat artificially glossy. Glossy! Come home with me and see my eat-my clever cat, who can groom herself! Look at your own dog! See how the intelligent creature currycombs himself with his own honest teeth. Then, again, what a fool the horse iswhat a poor, nervous fool! He will start at a white stone or a piece of paper in the road as if it were a lion, His one idea, when he hears a noise he is not instances of the sense and courage of the absurdly over-praised animal? might multiply them to two hundred if I chose to exercise my mind and waste my breath, which I can never do. prefer coming at once to my last charge against the horse, which is the most serious of all because it affects his moral character. I accuse him boldly, in his capacity of servant to man, of slyness sufficient for a kettle of clothes. and treachery. I brand him publicly, o matter how mild be may look shout the eyes or how sleek he may be in the coat, as a systematic betrayer, whenever he can get the chance, of the confidence reposed in him."

A CHILD'S DYING REQUEST-The Memphis Ledgerl says : A little, crumpled package arrived at the mayor's office this morning, which has a touch of history. It was sent by John A. Hughes, a merchant at Springfield, Illinois, who has been active in collecting money for the distressed people. It was tightly rolled up in two or three sheets of not very white letter paper, and contained five dollars and five cents, nearly all in one, two and three cent pieces and nickles; also two faded pieces of paper currency of the old five and ten cent issue. Evidently this was some child's treasure, the accumulations of a little box for months or years. On the inner wrapping was written, "Little Lilly's money, to go to a poor child ;" on the outer paper, written in a different hand, "From Little Lilly, for the Memphis sufferers, a dying bequest," No other explanation was given,

is evidently solaced,

The Postal Telegraph. From the Boston Advertiser

Four years ago, Mr. Cardiner G. Hubbard, of this city, in an address to plants poison the air of a room by the the Board of Trade, stated that the exhalation of carbonic acid during the tariffs of the Western Union telegraph night, has been demonstrated by recent | company were high, arbitrary and irexperiments of Prof. Kedzie of the regular; that a large reduction in rates Michigan agricultural college. To make | could be made without a diminution of as conclusive a test as possible, instead | the profits, which would increase the of taking the air from a room contain- business without a corresponding ining a few plants only, the professor crease of expenses, and that a still gathered it from the college green- further reduction of rates and of tariff house, where more than 6,000 plants | could be effected by the adoption of the were growing. The room had been postal telegraph. He has advocated his closed for more than twelve hours; and reform before congress, and obtained faif the plants exhaled carbonic acid to an | vorable reports at the last congress from injurious extent, the analysis of air committees both of the Senate and from such a room would certainly dis- Hous . Mr. Orton, in his annual re-

close this fact. Three specimens of port to the stockholders of the Western this imprisoned air were gathered Union telegraph company, says these shortly before sunrise, from different efforts have induced the company "to parts of the room, the analysis of which proceed more rapidly with increasing gave 4.11, 4.00, 4.00 parts of carbonic the facilities and reducing the rates acid in 10,000 of air, or an average of than they should otherwise have done. 4.03 in 10,000 while the out-door air | The average rates in 1869 were .97; continued 4 parts in 10,000, thus prov- now, according to this report, they are ing that the air in the green-house was | .61. Offices then, 3,469; now, 5,740, a reduction of 331 per cent, in the rates, THE BEES AS ARCHITECTS,-Man is and an increase of 50 per cent, in the

Mr. Hubbard said that large reductions in the rates could be made without any diminution of the net profits. This Mr. Orton denied, alleging that the expenses increased in proportion to the ousiness, and that a large reduction of rates was therefore impossible.

The net profits when the average rate was .67 were \$2,534,000; at .91 they are to solve at all without the greatest dffi. \$2,857,000, with an annual saving to the culty." "The inclination of the planes | public of \$4,000,000 in the reduced rates. Then 6,548,000 messages were annually

transmitted; now 12,200,000. Mr. Orton says no dividends have been recently paid. This is true, but in the meantime the company has doubled its business, added fifty per cent, to its miles of wire and other properly, has adapts her work to the requirements of purchased and now holds nearly twenty per cent. of its bonds and \$4,000,000 stock in other telegraph companies. amounting in all to \$12,000,000. The company has thus proved the truth of the position assu ed by Mr. Hubbard that's large reduction of rates would be followed here, as it had been abroad, by an increase of business and net profits. Mr. Orton very plain y intimates that no further considerable reduction in rates will be made. These rates are now higher than those of any other civilized country. The local rates are : For twenty-five miles or less, twentyfive cents; for over twenty-five m les and under fifty, fifty cents; for over fifty and under one hundred, eventyfive cents; with an average rate, as Mr. Orton says, of sixty-one. The rates abroad are as follows:

elgium, Switzerland, Baden and Nether-lands..... Austria from 10 cents to.

The average rate in all Europe is 40 Mr. Hubbard maintains that the rates can be still further greatly reduced, and proposes the following rates: 250 miles or under, 25 cents: between 250 and 500 miles, 50 cents; between 500 and 1,000 coveries with which vegetable physio- miles, 75 cents. By night, 1,000 miles logy has of late been enriched, none is or under, 25 cents, with an average rate

These rates Mr. Orton substantially ment of flowers. Some flowers seem to admits in his report are possible, for he appeal to the insect to enter their cpen leaves by exhibiting the brightest colors, which they are rapidly introducing upand most beautiful and varied forms, on their lines they can perform double beside secreting quantities of the nectar | the business on the same wires at a upon which their visitor subsists. No- small extra cost. If the postal system hing can be more wonderful than the is adopted the people will realize the thousands of different shapes of corolla | benefit from these great improvements of stamens, and of pistils; and yet all in reduced rates. If not, they will all are arranged to as not only to cover the go into the pockets of the stockholders

Two plans for uniting the telegraph pletely the pollen and stigma of the with the postoffice were submitted to same flower. Often the mechanical dis- the the last Congress. The postmastergeneral desired authority to purchase plossom and their play at the moment and operate all the lines of telegraph. of the entrance of the intruder is ex- The other plan authorizes the postmastremely complicated, as Darwin has de- ter-general to contract with the postal monstrated in the case of many of the telegraph company to transmit telegrams between all offices, to receive ers of which the construction is easily them at all post and telegraph offices, understood and which are equally in- and deliver them as they are now degenious and surprising. The insect livered at the rates above named, five dights upon the lower lip of the corolla, cents of the rate to be paid to the department for the office work performed penetrate the tube. But this it cannot by it. This plan relieves the departlo without pushing before it the short | ment from all expenses of purchasing, branches of the two levers formed by maintaining and operating lines, fixes the connectives. At the same time the the rates at low and reasonable charges, arched upper parts advance and em- prevents any centralization of power in brace the body of the bee, applying the the executive and takes the telegraph open anthers to its abdomen so that the out of the hands of private parties; insect emerges covered with the fine three gentlemen, it is said, at the annupollen. As long as it seeks the nectar at meeting, represented \$30,000,000 out of flowers of the same age as that just of \$40,000,000 of the capital of the comleft, of which the styles are still very pany. This plan was approved by the short, the stigmas can receive but little committees of the senate and house, pollen; but when the bee attempts to and will be brought before congress

Mr. Orton says the Western Union the pollen, and thus becomes fecunda- have checked all competition, bought Since the pollen of the salvia is out all competing lines, with two or deposited on the back of the insect, it three exceptions, which are doing a losis evident that little can be given to a ing business and are in process of being extinguished; that soon the Western tion of which requires the placing of Union telegraph company will be withthe substance upon the head or trunk. out a substantial competitor in the con-While, whatever may be the flowers duet of a business which is now in its which the bee visits before entering infancy, although transmitting over 12, another salvia, the pollen with which | 000,000 messages a year, and collecting, it is charged is not rubbed off or wasted, distributing, and furnishing the tele graph news to the press all over the

We prefer to see the postal system, as approved by committees of congress, inaugurated, and the country relieved is found in his writings, as follows: "I | from the danger of a corporation of such power, controlled by Mr. Vanderbilt and his assoiates.

result satisfactorily.

abstract the profits.

Salt-Rising Bread.

Care of Cows in Autumn.

New York, communicated to us recenty his practice in the management of Excellent Fruit Cake. his cows during the season when grass The day before the cake is to be begins to fail. He says the great secret made stone and cut fine the raisins, of rearing and feeding stock successwash the currants (and see that they fully, is to keep what you get-to save are carefully dried, or the cake will be every pound of flesh and fat that is proheavy), and cut the citron into small duced. The question lying still back of thin slices. To every pound of brown that is, how shall the fat and flesh be sugar allow three-quarters of a pound | retained? What to do and how to do it of butter, three pounds each of currants | is the question. Hitherto I have always and raisins, one pound of citron, one commenced feeding my cows with meal pound of sifted flour, five nutmegs grain October, and continued the regular ted, half a teaspoonful of cloves, half an extra feed through November; and we ounce of cinnamon, twelve eggs, and made more butter in one of those auhalf a tumbler of best brandy. Wash umn months than in any other month the butter well, remove all the water, of the grazing season. I have a pint and when the butter has been well cup with flaring sides, that holds, when crammed add slowly the sugar; when dipped in and heaped up full, about two these have been made perfectly light, quarts of good indian corn and oats, of stir slowly in the beaten yolks of the eggs, alternating the flour and wellnever "cob" my animals. I am down on beaten whites; then cinnamon and cloves; mix a small quantity of flour every fifteen bushels of corn and oats I through the fruit, to prevent it going in mingle, before it is ground, about one lumps through the cake. Now stir in bushel of flax seed. This improves the the fruit, a small quantity at a time, al quality of the feed for animals of any ternating it; and when it has been long | kind, as ground flasseed, when mingled and well stirred, so it is certain to be with grain, is far better for milch cows, mixed through the batter, add the bran- for horses, for fattening sheep, or for Bake in one large loaf, or two accustomed to, is to run away from it. small ones, in a slack oven two hours. I sow a little flaxseed every year for the Many persons who have not experience in baking fruit-cake prefer sending it to mingle with the grain that is ground inculcating habits of economy is to bea cake or bread baker, where it is certain into meal for my cows and other stock.

Items for Housekeepers.

Alum or vinegar is good to set colors red, green or yellow. Sal soda will bleach; one spoonful is Save your suds for the garden and niture will take out spots. Ribbons of any kind should be washed

cold suds and not rinsed. If flat-irons are rough rub them well bility, you must choose small figures. A bit of soap rubbed on the hinges of erickets run out, will destroy them. for bed-hangings and window-drapery,

vided. Most of our wants are artificial. same temperature as rising, stir the ris- instruction, there are 1,079 scholars, why it is that the rich are oftener em- of an hour mix this into stiff dough; if men, 2,889 are depositors to the amount -When a widow resumes corsets she | been always limited, have long learned | make the loaves a little larger, and keep | the savings-banks through this agency to live within them.

SATIETY. After singing, silence; after roses, thorns; all the blackest midnights built o'er morns;
After flowering, fading; bitter after sweet;
Yellow, withered stubble, after waving wheat. After green, the dropping of the shriveled leaf, Like the sudden lopping of some dear belief; After gurgling waters, dry, unsightly beds; After exultation, lowly-hanging heads,

So I shrink and shiver at your proffered kiss, Knowing pain must follow on the heel of bliss; Knowing loss must find me sleeping on you

Leave me while you love me, -this is surely best ! Like a blushless flower left upon its stem, weetening the thickness of the forest's hem Like a hidden fountain, never touched of lips Like an unknown ocean, never sailed by ships.

Thus I shall be fairer to your untried thought, Than if all my living into yours were wrought, Hearts' dreams are the sweetest in a lovely nest;

Leave me while you love me, -this is surely best Good Feeding-Pens. Nothing is more common than to hear the remark that the hogs have cost too much-that, considering the value of the corn which they consumed, the price they have brought in the market has left no margin to remunerate the farmer for his labor and risk, and give him the profit to which he felt himself entitled. It is a common complaint, this, and in a majority of cases it is sustained by the facts, for the farmer has emptied his "cribs" at considerable labor, watered and salted his hogs early and late, taken considerable risk of loss "cholera" and other diseases, etc., and when his hogs were marketed received a sum scarcely equal to what his corn would have brought him if it had been sold in the crib or in his own fields. We are aware that it often requires considerable skill and judgment to secure very large returns over and above the value of the corn and cost of labor incidental to feeding swine, but we nevertheless believe that where the feeding operations are conducted with proper care, they can be depended upon o yield something in the way of profit. One of the most fruitful causes of the failure of some farmers to realize such a result is their neglect to provide suitable feeding-pens. We presume no reader of this journal pursues the practice himself, but we dare say every one of them can name some neighbor who turns his fattening hogs into a small inclosure of two to three acres, which the combined influence of the fall rains and the nasal appendages of the swine transforms into an unbroken mortar Perhaps some attempt at a rude shelter for the animals is found on one side of the inclosure, but generally they are left to follow "their own sweet will" in the selection of a sleeping place in the shallowest or deepest mire. Into this slough their food is thrown. A portion is eaten at once; the remainder s tramped out of sight. Of course a large portion of this is wasted direct, for it is never brought to the surface, where it can be appropriated by the animals for which is was intended. At any hour of the day the swine may be seen dragging their unwieldy bodies with great labor and difficulty from one side of the inclosure to the other and back again. And at night, when perchance the "hired hand" is a little tardy in throwing fresh supplies of food, a half-hundred snouts are industriously engaged in turning over and over the miry clay, in search of the food which the instinct of their owners tells them is buried somewhere beneath the rievably in the mud, and the portion

night, cannot be any more successfully probably never been surpassed in this fattened. Where good comfortable, dry | species of gunnery. quarters are provided, which protect the animal from the inclemencies of the THE PUBLIC DEBT weather, which conduce to its quiet reose, which prevent the possibility of Regular Monthly Statement Increase in October \$3,039,578. ood being wasted, and remove the ne: essity of exertion when the animal desires to eat, the farmer can expect his

likewise understand that a hog when onds, of which 1,595 struck the target.

compelled to labor from morning till | These are remarkable results and have

An enterprising farmer of Weston DEBT BEARING INTEREST IN LAWFUL MONEY. DEBT BEARING NO INTEREST CASH IN THE TREASURY

as provided by law DEBT LESS CASH IN THE TREASURY.

that cob system of management. With Bonds issued to Pacific railroad mails, etc. f interest paid by the

express purpose of having the seed to

lit warm for another three-quarters of in that little city.

an hour; it will then be ready to bake. While rising this last time have your The following account of an execuoven heating; it needs a hotter oven ion in Japan is given by a corresponthan yeast bread. If these rules are followed you will have bread as white

ciously tender. - Country Gentleman. Fall Treatment of Sheep. It is customary to give sheep the run

damp and clinging, still worse, shelter they should have access to shelter the entire summer to avoid the heat as well as the spring and fall rains; and if they do not readily take advantage of if they should be made to occupy it and feed there. Nothing is so good to feed as tender, it will be relished; and if thrown to sheep often and little at a time, they will eat it up clean; it will answer much the purpose of grass, so that there will be, in effect, no break from grass to hay. If the hay has been damaged in harvesting, some additional feed will be required, such as meal, roots, etc. The point is to avoid the rains—which drench often to the skin, causing the animal to shiver and suffer, take cold and engender disease, and to get the flock to go into winter-quarters in good strong condition. Especially should young sheep (tegs) have this care given them, as the severity of the fall and winter weather is new to them. and they are more tender than the old "Aftermath is an excellent food for them, and can yet be secured, the season growing it well. By feed this, or early clover hay well cured, nothing more is needed during the fall and winter. Tegs will grow the whole winter through on this alone, and come out hearty and valuable in the spring. This can be relied on as we know by experience, but the grass or clover must be secured well and when tender, so that it is relished and its substance made available. No food is so healthy as wets a knife in order to cut india rub this, the natural feed for sheep and cat- | ber.' While we are writing this, in the latter half of August, a long, slow, cold rain is falling, wetting the fleeces of the flocks, to remain wet for a day or two, or longer, should the rain continue. At the same time there are sheep that we know of that are safe under cover, chewing their end in content, or at leisure are feeding on the fresh green hay providing for them. When the rain is over they will go out dry and lively, a contrast to their fleece-soaked neighbors. Care, as applied to stock, is getting to be understood more and more, it is an element of vast importance, second only to feeding itself. It is, in effect, feed, requiring the less where the treatment is good, and vice versa. What applies

to sheep holds good more or less with other stock .- Utica Herald. Recent Gunnery Trials. gnus and mitrailleuses assembled that is caten is appropriated not to lay | Fortress Monroe on the 1st of October, on fat, but to sustain its strength while and closed their labors on the 6th. the animal is burrowing after more, and | The trials were made under direction of floundering through the mire. Of Gen'l Gilmore, president of the board, course, under such circumstances, the assisted by Col. Treadwell, of the ordgain of the animal is ridiculous when | nance department, and Capt. Lorraine, compared with the value of the food of the artillery. The trials were made which has been provided. Neither do on the sea-shore near the fort, the tarwe suppose that any reader of this jour- | get being 9 feet high and 40 feet long. nal has such poor accommodations; but The guns tried consisted of the ordiwe dare say every one of them can nary Napoleon 9-pounder field-gun carname some neighbor who provides no rying 12ths, canisters; weight of gun, farther shelter than the corner of a about 900 lbs., worked by 8 men, range stake and ridered fence to protect his of firing 800 yards; the ordinary 8-inch hogs from the vicissitudes of the weath- field howitzer, weight of gun about Here they receive the cold fall 2,500 fbs., worked by 8 men, range of rains, and here, too, they take the sleet | firing 800 yards; the small Gatling gun, and the snow, and the fierce winds which | caliber 42, weight of gun 200 lbs, worked come before the "bars are let down," by 2 men, range of firing 800 and 1,200 and the occupants of the yard turned | yards; the 1-inch Gatling gun, 900fbs., over to the drover. When the farmer | worked by 4 men, using canister carthas so little consideration for his real | ridges each containing 21 half-inch balls, interests as to provide such accommo- range of firing 800 and 1,200 yards. lations for his swine while they are The remarkable advantages of the transforming his corn into pork, he has Gatling gun were never more thoroughno business to anticipate successful re- ly established than on this trial. At Any animal, to fatten readily, 800 yards the small gun threw 600 shots should be maintained under conditions | in 90 seconds, of which 515 hit the tarfavorable to its comfort and quiet. If | get, being from 8 to 10 times more than confined to a muddy inclosure, where the hits made by the howitzer and field the discomfort of one situation keeps it | guns. At 1,200 yards range the latter perpetually on the tramp, in search of guns, owing to some defect in the amne more favorable, or where it is ob- munition, were withdrawn, to be tried iged to turn over tons of earth every on another occasion. At 1,200 yards day in search of food, it will not fatten | range the Gatling guns, both sizes, exkindly. Every one understands the im- hibited great success in striking the tarpossibility of fattening an ox while get with deep penetration. The heavy evere labor is enforced, and should Gatling, threw 5,355 missiles in 90 sec-

Washington, D. C., Nov. 1.-The public debt statement has just been feeding operations, other things being issued, of which the following is a reattended to with equal judgment, to capitulation:

489,272,900 00 .\$1.723,370,350 00 14,226,290 0 ... \$ 445,353,978 00

Total in treasury......\$ 95,500,732 00 beht less cash in treasury \$2,141,833,476 00 ncrease of the debt during the past mouth..... equal parts, made of the pure grain. I BONDS ISSUED TO PACIFIC BAILBOAD COMPANIES-

64,623,572 00 fortably.

The Habit of Saving Money.

The only absolutely certain way of gin with the children, and accustom will those who have been LONG AFFLICTED I think this is the true way to make them to self-control and self-denial by money—to save all that is made without | saving a portion of their pocket money. loosing any portion. The little losses or the earnings of odd minutes. There will be even a greater necessity for economy in the next generation than in this, since now the bounteous gifts of nature are being lavishly drawn upon, A enrrespondent of the Household and our successors are likely to live ungives the following receipt for making der narrower conditions than we do. nts, or to harden yards when sandy. salt-rising bread, which is superior to The city of Ghent, Belgium, has set us A hot shovel held over varnished fur- common yeast bread, and is considered a good example in this matter. Withby some as more wholesome: Put out government influence, and mainly three teacups of water, as warm as you can bear your finger in, in a two-quart cup or bowl, and three-fourths of a tease spoonful of salt; stir in flour enough spoonful of salt; stir in flour enough spoonful of salt; stir in flour enough savings banks depositors. They bring the instrumentality of the savings banks depositors, and manny through the instrumentality of the instrumentality of the instrumentality of the savings below that it saved my instrumentality of the instrumen A bit of glue dissolved in skim-milk | three teacups of water, as warm as you | through the instrumentality of the and water will restore old rusty crape. can bear your finger in, in a two-quart schoolmasters and schoolmistresses of to make a stiff batter; this is for the savings banks depositors. They bring with salt, and it will make them smooth. rising, or emptyings as some call it. their centimes to their teachers, who If you are buying a carpet for dura | Set the bowl, closely covered, in a ket- deposit for them; and 13,032 of the tle, in warm water, as warm as you can attendants upon the schools are thus bear your finger in, and keep it as near practicing frugality. Out of 7,989 boys loors will prevent them from creaking. this temperature as possible. Notice and girls in the primary schools, 7,583 Scotch snuff, if put in the holes where | the time when you "set" your rising ; have savings-bank accounts, the averin three hours stir in two table spoonfuls | age sum deposited by them, according Green should be the prevailing color of flour, put it back and in five and one- to a paper read before the British assohalf hours from the time of setting, it ciation by J. G. Fitch, being 274,602 will be within one inch of the top of francs; in the infant schools (the habit -Socrates, when once passing through | your bowl. It is then light enough, of saving begins thus early) there are the market, said: "How much is there and will make up eight quarts of flour; 3,029 children, of whom 1,920 are dehere I do not need !" Nature is content | make a sponge in the centre of your | positors of 66,543 francs; in the primawith little; and that little is easily pro | flour with one quart of water of the | ry schools for the classes who pay for And artificial wants are the most im- ing into it, cover over with a little dry 540 of whom deposit 22,687 francs; and perious master that have ever dom- flour, and put it where it will keep very in the school for adults, held evenings neered over mankind. That explains warm, but not scald; in three-fourths and Sundays, out of 3,285 men and wobarassed by the want of money, than are those who, because their means have and do not work as much as yeast bread; dred thousand dollars is deposited in

A Japanese Execution.

"I went to see an execution at Yeddo, out of a vile curiosity. I reas snow, with a light brown crust, delipented of it, but still it was a most extraordinary spectacle, and impressed me very much. The culprits were eight in number, one being a woman. They were all beheaded with a sword. The of the fields till the snow cuts off their operation was performed with wondersupport. And even after that we often | ful dexterity and coolness, and not one see them pawing up the snow to get at of them, even the woman, showed the the grass. The result is, almost inva- slightest symptom of fear. There was riably, that the sheep go into winter a space of ground roped off; inside quarters in a reduced condition. It requires, then, extra feed to bring them with a little mound behind each, on up again-grain at that; and grain is which was spread a mat for the criminal not generally a profitable feed for store to kneel on. On one side of the ensheep, or at least is less profitable than closure were two Japanese officials, in other cheaper yet nutritious fodder. chairs, to see the thing properly con-When the fall rains come, cold and ducted. I had a place directly in front often soaking, and later the snows, of the mounds, at about six feet distance. The criminals were placed in a should be prepared for sheep, indeed row on one side of the enclosure, blindfolded with pieces of paper (they use paper for everything there). struck me most was the horrid coolness of the executioner's assistant, a good looking lad of about eighteen; he went up to each poor wretch in his turn, gave early cut clover hay. If secured as it him a tap on the shoulder, led him up should be, when just in blossom quite to the mound, and made him kneel on the mat; he then stripped his should ers, made him stretch out his neck, said 'That will do,' and in a flash the man's head was in the hole in front of him, and his bleeding neck was, as it were, staring me in the face. The assistant still with the same pleasant smile picked the head up, threw some water over the face to wash off the blood and mud, and presented it to the Japanese officials, who nodded and signed to go on with the next; the assistant then gave the corpse a blow between the shoulders to expel the blood, and finally threw the carcas aside like a log of wood. He then repeated the same pleasant programme with the next. I never thought a man's head could come off so easily; it was like chopping cabbages, only ac companied with a peculiar and most horrid sound-that of cutting meat, in fact. There was a dense crowd of Japanese present, including many women and even children; these people never ceased to eat, smoke and chatter the whole time, making remarks on the performance, and even occasionally laughing, just as if they were at a theatre. The executioner poured water on his

sword between each decapitation, as one Origin of Plants. Madder came from the East. Cabbage grows wild in Siberia. Buckwheat came from Siberia. Celery originated in Germany. The chestnut came from Italy The potato is a native of Peru. The onion originated in Egypt. Tobacco is a native of Virginia. Millet was first known in India, The nettle is a native of Europe. The citron is a native of Greece. The pine is a native of America. Oats originated in North Africa. The poppy originated in the East. Rye came originally from Siberia. Parsley was first known in Sardinia. The parsnip is a native of Arabia. Sunflower was brought from Peru. The pear and apple are from Europe Spinach was first cultivated in Arabia. The mulberry tree originated in

The quince came from the Island of Crete. The radish is a native of China and

The Zealand flax shows its origin by its name. Pears are supposed to be of Egyptian The garden cress is from Egypt and

Horse radish came from the south of Europe. Hemp is a native of Persia and the East Indies. The coriander grows wild near the

The Jerusalem artichoke is a Brazilian production. Barley was found in the mountains of Himalaya, THE SOCIAL SIMPLETON-This is Charles Reade's description of the heroine of his novel, called "A Simpleton: Rosa Lusignan was a dark, but dazzling beauty, with coal-black hair and glorious dark eyes, that seemed to beam

with soul all day long; her eyebrows, black, straightish and rather thick would have been majestic and rather severe had the other features followed suit; but her black brows were succeeded by long, silky lashes, a sweet oval face, two pouting lips studded with ivory, and an exquisite chin, as feeble as any man could desire in the patrner of his bosom. Person straight, elastic and rather tall. Mind, nineteen. Accomplishments, numerous, A poor French scholar, a worse German, a worse English; an admirable dancer, an inaccurate musician, a good rider, a bad draughtswoman; a bad hairdresser, at the mercy of her maid; a hot theologian, knowing nothing; a sorry accountant, no housekeeper, no seamstress, a fair embroideress, a capital geographer, and

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